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NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Press Release

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NEVADA'S 2011-12 COLLEGE BOARD RESULTS RELEASED

The College Board has released Nevada's SAT and Advanced Placement Report for the 2011-12 school year. The results represent the largest and most diverse group of graduating seniors in state history, with 11,048 students having participated in the SAT assessment in Nevada.

The number of test-takers is increasing as is the diversity of the group. The test scores are declining slightly which can be attributed to more students of varied academic backgrounds participating in the process. The overall mean scores dropped by three points in Critical Reading from 494 to 491, by three points in Mathematics from 496 to 493 and by four points in Writing from 470 to 466. Across the nation, there was a slight decline in mean scores as well. This slight decrease in scores nationally can also be credited to increases in participation of more diverse student groups.

Nevada student participation in Advanced Placement (AP) programs continues to grow, with 12,271 students taking at least one AP examination. The number of Nevada students participating in AP has grown by 43.5% over the past five years, which is a good sign for increased expectations that students graduate high school college and career ready and able to lead successful, independent, and economically sustainable lives.

Dr. James W. Guthrie, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, commented, "The overarching goal of our education system is to effectively deliver an outstanding education that increases achievement, reduces the achievement gap among student groups, and prepares each student for postsecondary college and careers. Continued expansion in the participation and improved performance in the College Board SAT and AP assessments, particularly for our minority and low-income students will support future success in college and the workforce, and will improve outcomes for our education system and for the state as a whole."

The College Board is a mission-driven non-profit organization that connects students to college success and opportunity. Each year, the College Board assists more than seven million students prepare for a successful transition to college through programs and services as well as college readiness and college success – including the SAT and the AP Programs. Further information and the full report can be accessed at www.collegeboard.com/.

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